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INSECT, PLANT DISEASE, & WEED SCIENCE NEWS [No. 87-14] [June 19, 1987]

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INSECT PLANT DISEASE WEED SCIENCE

NEWS

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Postemergence Weed Control

Corn--With large corn, drop extensions should be used on the sprayer to keep Banvel and 2,4-D out of the corn whorl to minimize injury. Corn injury is not a concern with atrazine, Brominal, Buctril, and Laddok, however, weeds taller than 4-6" are usually not killed. Banvel and 2,4-D can make corn brittle increasing breakage from cultivation.

Sorghum--2,4-D can be applied over the top of sorghum from 4-12" in height. After 12", drop extensions should be used. Banvel can be used from the 3-leaf stage through 15" in height. However, after the sorghum reaches 8", drop extensions should be used on the sprayer. Atrazine, Brominal, Buctril, and Laddok will not injure sorghum but remember the size limitations on weeds.

Soybeans--Basagran, Blazer, Cobra, Classic, and Tackle applications should be keyed to weed size rather than soybean size. All are most effective when applied to broadleaf weeds less than 4" in height. Fusilade and Poast should be applied before annual grasses tiller. Tillering often occurs by the time grasses reach 4". Rescue, applied after soybeans are 18" tall or after first bloom, will control or suppress cocklebur, giant ragweed, sunflower, and morningglory 10-30" tall. Some crop stunting may occur.

Herbicide Drift on Gardens

Drift onto gardens from 2,4-D, Banvel, and other herbicides sometimes occurs. The question arises as to whether or not the garden produce is safe to use after the drift happens. If the beans, tomatoes, vine crops, onions, and other vegetables produce near normal edible portions, consumption and preservation should present no problems.



Storm Damaged Crops and Herbicide Injury

There is a greater than normal injury risk when applying postemergence herbicides to crops damaged by wind, hail, and blowing sand and soil. The bruised and damaged tissue permits increased herbicide intake. Also, with some herbicides, there is decreased detoxification which increases injury risk. Waiting several days for the crop to recover from storm damage reduces the risk of herbicide injury. However, don't wait too long as the weeds will be growing also.

Herbicides posing the greatest risk to corn and sorghum include 2,4-D, Banvel, Bladex, and atrazine. However, atrazine could be used postemergence on corn not severely damaged, but not on sorghum. Basagran should be fairly safe on both corn and sorghum. Brominal and Bucril would not pose an unusual risk on storm damaged crops.

Storm damaged soybeans should not be treated with Amiben, Basagran, Blazer, Cobra, Classic, or Tackle until they recover. Fusilade and Poast would be relatively safe to use.

Lawn Weed Control

Summer months are not the time to apply 2,4-D, dicamba (Banvel), and MCPP (mecoprop) for broadleaf weed control. There's too much chance for injury to gardens, ornamentals, shrubs, and trees. Wait until October.

Prostrate Spurge - Now is the time to apply the second Dacthal treatment for extended control during July and August. Balan and Betasan do not control spurge. Pendimethalin (Prowl), which in 1985 became the active ingredient in a popular line of turf products, does provide spurge control and also oxalis. If pendimethalin was used in the spring, spurge and oxalis problems should be under control.

Yellow Nutsedge - Basagran is the safest and most effective herbicide for yellow nutsedge control. Mix 1 oz/gal of water along with an equal amount of surfactant or detergent and apply to vigorous growing plants. Basagran is available only in gallon containers which sell for \$55.00. Neighbors, families, or garden clubs with a yellow nutsedge problem could jointly invest in a gallon of Basagran. A gallon will treat 3 to 4 acres. Arsonates (DSMA, MSMA, and others) are sold in smaller containers for postemergence control of crabgrass and yellow nutsedge.

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